

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

————— MEETING SUMMARY —————

Public Health Auditorium
1601 East Hazelton Avenue
Stockton CA

Wednesday, April 19, 2000 – 7:00 a.m.

(approved 05/10/00)

1. Meeting was called to order by Chair Gutierrez at 7:04 a.m. Roll call was taken and all Commission members were in attendance except for Commissioners Fujii (7:08 a.m.), and Smith (7:09 a.m.).
2. Meeting summaries from March 27, March 29, and April 3, 2000 were presented for approval.

Motion: Approve meeting summaries from March 27, March 29, as amended, and April 3, 2000. (Snider/Vera – Motion passed 7–0).

3. Financial Report – January to March 2000

Staff presented the quarterly report for both the Trust Fund and the operating account. The Trust fund balance as of the beginning of April was just under \$10 million. Expenditures over the past quarter were approximately \$76,000, primarily for reimbursement of staff time and consultant fees.

Motion: Accept the report as written. (Flenoy–Kelly/Mitchell – 9–0)

4. Discussion of Brown Act

County Counsel, Terrence Dermody, reviewed for the Commission the requirements and constraints on Commissioners imposed by the Brown Act. Mr. Dermody indicated that his overview was based not on any complaints, but rather as a precautionary measure. Mr. Dermody emphasized especially the need for vigilance in regard to “serial communications” among Commission members, e.g. E-mails, notes, voice mail, letter, etc. Deliberations must be open to scrutiny by the public. If communications have the effect of forming a consensus of the Commission outside the public purview, a violation of the Brown Act may be alleged.

Chair Gutierrez advised that literature regarding the Brown Act was available and could be provided to the Commissioners by staff.

5. Discussion on Draft Strategic Plan

Following up from the previous Commission strategic plan working session on April 3, 2000, consultant Paul Harder presented for review and revisions the second half of the second installment of the Plan. Goals two through four and the objectives related to those goals were covered. Considerable public participation assisted the Commission in refining and expanding the outcome indicators and the suggested strategies for achieving the specified objectives. Mr. Harder encouraged the Commissioners to note particularly the responses and recommendations of the parent focus groups and the survey respondents in terms of what they stated were the primary needs of the community.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to determine priorities. It was suggested and agreed to by Mr. Harder that following the upcoming community meetings, a special session devoted to a structured prioritization process would be scheduled in order to develop a means of weighing and evaluating proposals.

6. Public Comments

- a. Jesse Nabors, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commissioner, commended the Commission as another entity dedicated to helping children in the community. He stated he strongly supported listening to the voices of parents and their needs for health care for their children, transportation, and improved communication. He urged the Commission to expend their funds for the most needed services, and cautioned against overspending on staff and consultants.
- b. Phyllis Grupe, Chairperson of the Community Partnership for Families of San Joaquin, recommended that under Objective 2.7, Strategies of the Strategic Plan, there be included some kind of care for children who are “off track” from their schools.
- c. Vincent Hernandez II, School Psychologist, San Joaquin County Office of Education, spoke of the importance of public notice of the Commission’s activities. He further emphasized the importance of brain stimulation in child development as a matter that the Commission should focus on even though many parents may not realize or appreciate the vital role that this plays in both the short and long-term interests of their children.

7. Comments from Commission Members

A discussion involving all Commissioners regarding necessary meetings leading up to adoption of the final Strategic Plan ensued.

The following schedule was agreed upon:

Wednesday, May 10, 2000 – 7:00 a.m. – Full Commission
Meeting to develop the structured prioritization process and to discuss public input from the community meetings.

Wednesday, May 17, 2000 – 7:00 a.m. – Regular Commission business meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 2000 – Time to be announced
Public hearing for adoption of the Strategic Plan

8. *Meeting was adjourned to April 26, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at the Manteca Public Library (Fujii/Grande – Motion passed 7-0)*

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